

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 1 and 9 as indicated below. The following is a complete listing of claims and replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A display control device for controlling to display pictures, which are from a plurality of signal sources connected to signal lines, in a plurality of display areas on a single screen respectively, said display control device comprising:

an attributes information memory, which stores display attributes information for each of the plurality of display areas on the single screen; and

a notification unit, which notifies the plurality of signal sources connected to the signal lines of ~~each of~~ the stored display attributes information corresponding to the display area in which the picture from the each of the plurality of signal sources is displayed.

Claim 2 (previously presented): A display control device according to Claim 1, wherein display attributes information is created or changed according to a setting of a display area.

Claim 3 (previously presented): A display control device according to Claim 1, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in an inputted picture signal.

Claim 4 (previously presented): A display control device according to Claim 1, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with at least one of:
a change in a number of signals on a network comprising the signal lines; and
a change in an attribute of a signal on the network.

Claim 5 (previously presented): A display control device according to Claim 1, wherein notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in size or position of a display area of an inputted picture on the screen.

Claim 6 (previously presented): A display control device according to Claim 1, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in size or position of a display area on the screen.

Claim 7 (previously presented): A display control device according to Claim 1, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in usage of a display area.

Claim 8 (previously presented): A display control device according to Claim 1, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in content of an inputted picture.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A display control device for controlling to display pictures, which are from a plurality of signal sources connected to signal lines, in a plurality of display areas on a single screen respectively, said display control device comprising:

an obtaining unit, which obtains identification signals relating to pictures from the plurality of signal sources;

a display selection information creating unit, which creates display selection information based on the obtained identification signals;

a display selection unit, which appropriates each of the pictures to the plurality of display areas on the single screen according to the created display selection information; and

a notification unit, which notifies each of the plurality of signal sources connected to the signal lines of the created display selection information.

Claim 10 (previously presented): A display control device according to Claim 9, further comprising:

an image memory, which stores a plurality of pictures inputted from the plurality of signal sources connected to the signal lines; and

an area securing unit, which secures a storage area for storing each of the plurality of pictures in said image memory, according to the created display selection information.

Claim 11 (previously presented): A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein the display selection information is created or changed according to a setting of a display area.

Claim 12 (previously presented): A display control device according to Claim 11, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in the display selection information.

Claim 13 (previously presented): A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in inputted pictures.

Claim 14 (previously presented): A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in a number of inputted pictures.

Claim 15 (previously presented): A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with at least one of:
a change in a number of signals on a network comprising the signal lines; and
a change in an attribute of a signal.

Claim 16 (previously presented): A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in size or position of a display area of an inputted picture on the screen.

Claim 17 (previously presented): A display control device according to claim 9, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in size or position of a display area on the screen.

Claim 18 (previously presented): A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in usage of a display area.

Claim 19 (previously presented): A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in content of an inputted picture.

Claim 20 (previously presented): A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in a positional relation of a plurality of picture-in-picture screens on the screen.

Claim 21 (previously presented): A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein the identification signals obtained by said obtaining unit are identification numbers provided to the plurality of signal sources.

Claim 22 (previously presented): A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein the identification signals obtained by said obtaining unit are communication addresses provided to the plurality of signal sources.

Claim 23 (previously presented): A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein the identification signals obtained by said obtaining unit are identification numbers or communication addresses provided for an output mode of the plurality of signal sources.

Claim 24 (previously presented): A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein the identification signals obtained by said obtaining unit are identification numbers or communication addresses provided for an output channel of the plurality of signal sources.

Claim 25 (previously presented): A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein the identification signals obtained by said obtaining unit are identification numbers or communication addresses provided for the pictures.

Claim 26 (previously presented): A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein the identification signals obtained by said obtaining unit are identification numbers or communication addresses provided to users of the plurality of signal sources for the pictures.

Claim 27 (previously presented): A display control system for controlling to display pictures, which are from a plurality of signal sources connected to signal lines, in a plurality of display areas on a screen respectively, said system comprising a display control device that includes:

- an attributes information memory, which stores display attributes information for each of the plurality of display areas;

- an obtaining unit, which obtains identification signals relating to pictures from the plurality of signal sources;

- a display selection information creating unit, which creates display selection information based on the obtained identification signals;

- a display selection unit, which appropriates the pictures to the plurality of display areas according to the created display selection information; and

- a notification unit, which notifies the plurality of signal sources connected to the signal lines of each of the stored display attributes information and the created display selection information,

wherein each of the plurality of signal sources comprises a transmitting unit, which transmits picture signals corresponding to a display area, based on the display attributes information and the display selection information notified by said notification unit.

Claim 28 (previously presented): A display control system according to Claim 27, wherein the transmitting unit suppresses an amount of information of the picture signals, based on the display attributes information and the display selection information notified by said notification unit, and transmits the picture signals, whose amount of information has been suppressed.

Claim 29 (previously presented): A display control method of a display control device, for controlling to display pictures, which are from a plurality of signal sources connected to signal lines, in a plurality of display areas on a screen respectively, said method comprising the steps of:

at the display control device:

storing display attributes information for each of the plurality of display areas;

obtaining identification signals relating to pictures from the plurality of signals sources;

creating display selection information based on the obtained identification information;

appropriating the pictures to the plurality of display areas according to the created display selection information; and

notifying the plurality of signal sources connected to the signal lines of each of the stored display attributes information and the created display selection information, and

at each of the plurality of signal sources:

transmitting picture signals corresponding to a display area, based on the display attributes information and the display selection information notified in said notifying step.

Claim 30 (previously presented): A computer-readable recording medium storing a program for implementing a method of a display control device, for controlling to display pictures, which are from a plurality of signal sources connected to signal lines, in a plurality of display areas on a screen respectively, the program comprising:

code for a storage step of storing display attributes information for each of the plurality of display areas;

code for an obtaining step of obtaining identification signals relating to picture signals from the plurality of signal sources;

code for a creating step of creating display selection information based on the obtained identification information;

code for an appropriating step of appropriating the pictures to the plurality of display areas according to the created display selection information; and

code for a notifying step of notifying the plurality of signal sources connected to the signal lines of each of the stored display attributes information and the created display selection information.